

The Student Voice

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Freshman Jeff Bolio



WSU Dedicates First On Campus Baseball Field
On Page 3

Photo Courtesy of WSU
Athletics

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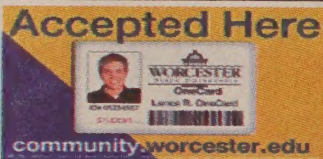
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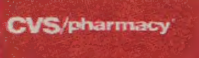
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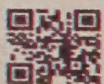
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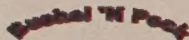
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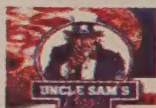
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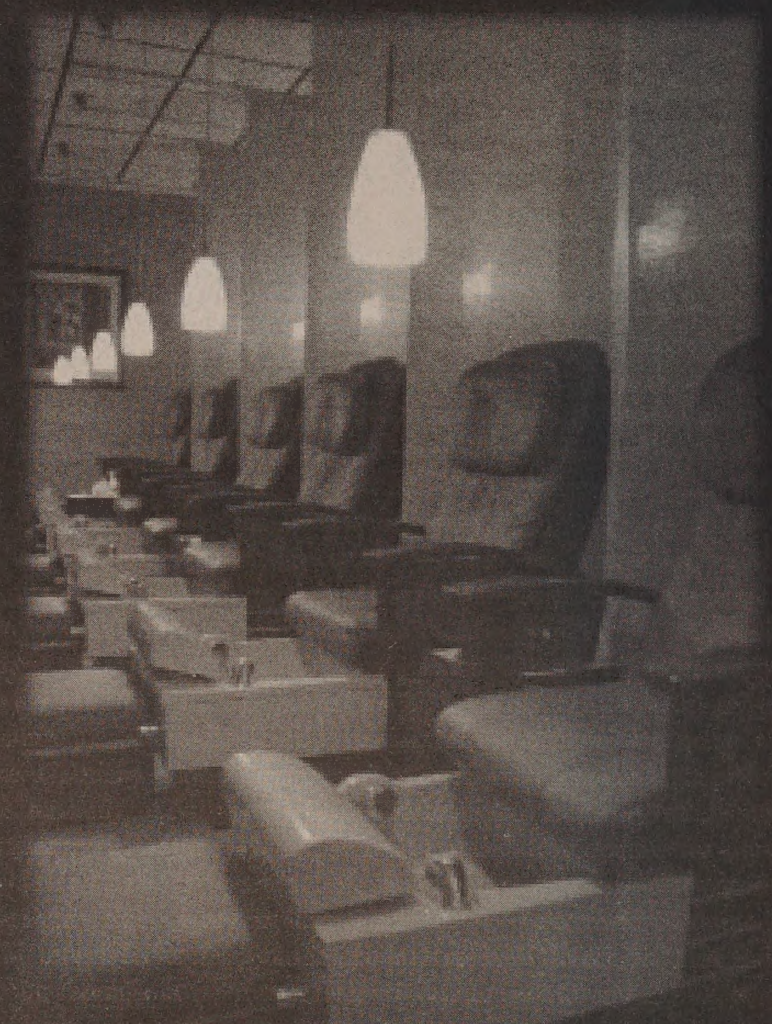
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SGA and Senate Final Updates: Student Emergency Fund and April Senate Elections

By Marion Calabro
Senate Correspondent

As another academic year at Worcester State University (WSU) winds to a close, the WSU Student Government Association (SGA) and Student Senate are looking ahead. The Student Emergency Fund proposed earlier this spring has passed and will be implemented in the Fall semester. Student elections recently concluded delivering new faces to Senate and implementing change on campus.

The Student Emergency Fund will give students with unforeseen financial need access to grants. The \$2 fee supporting this fund will be applied to students' tuition

through the preexisting student activities fee. For students in need there will be an application process through the Student Affairs Office. The exact details for the application process and requirements will be released for the fall 2012 semester.

In April, the SGA and Student Senate hosted their annual spring elections. Voter turn out was higher than it had been in several semesters. A total of 488 students cast their votes.

The elections results were released the evening after elections, April 11th. The new SGA President and Student Trustee for next year are Trevor Sansoucy '13 and Colleen McKenna '13.

For the General Senate, six

students have been elected. Marion Calabro '13, Debora Dias, and Charlie Davis will serve as Commuter Senators. Lindsey Bullen '14 will serve as an At Large Senator. Kristy Levinson '13 and Tyler Caravoulas '14 will serve as senators for their respective classes.

All new SGA and Senate terms will start immediately following commencement.

On this year's ballot there were two referendum questions. Question 1 regarded whether or not Worcester State University Students wished to continue to support

MassPirg on campus through the optional \$7.00 fee on their semester tuition bills. Referendum question 1 did not pass removing the fee

from next semester's tuition bill for WSU students. This also means that MassPirg will cease its presence on campus.

The second referendum question presented updates to the Student Government Association's constitution. The question passed.

SGA will be hosting supplementary elections at the end of September this upcoming fall. The Student Senate welcomes all students to run for a senator position.

The successful year for the SGA and Senate would not have been possible without student and community participation.

WSU Dedicates First On Campus Baseball Field

By Steve Miller
Adviser

On Saturday, April 21, The City of Worcester and Worcester State University officially dedicated the Kevin D. Lyons Baseball Diamond at Rockwood Park, just before the squads MASCAC doubleheader against Bridgewater State University.

The Honorable Joseph Petty served as the master of ceremonies to an event that brought several state and local dignitaries, the Lyons friends and family together to mark the occasion.

"Events like this built by accident, they are built with cooperation, people working together and that is exactly how this field was built," said Petty. "We couldn't think of a better person to name it after than Kevin Lyons."

Lyons was a two-time graduate of Worcester State – with a bachelor's degree in 1965 and a masters degree in 1971, was a standout centerfielder and exceptional hitter on the 1964 and 1965 NESCAC Championship teams that posted a combined record of 26-1. Lyons was inducted into the inaugural Worcester State Athletic Hall of Fame in 1986 and he was an advocate for local youth and interscholastic athletic teams in the Worcester Community. He helped

run the Press Box, a tavern on Lincoln Street, with his brother-in-law and helped make it a staple of the community.

Worcester State University and the Worcester State foundation contributed \$540,000 toward 2.8 million, multi-year renovation project of Rockwood Field, which is city-owned property adjacent to the universities north parking lot.

President Barry Maloney, City Manager Michael O'Brien and other state and local representatives each made brief remarks about the important partnership between the city and the university, the background behind how the baseball field was rebuilt and eventually renamed after Lyons.

"Twelve years ago, I was the Commissioner for Parks and Dirk Baker walked into my office and we talked for hours about how we could bring this ball field back," said O'Brien. "But in this city, we'll find a way, even in tough economic times, we will look to see great projects like this come to fruition."

"We've invested seven million dollars from corner to corner of this facility and its all state-of-the-art. How fitting a tribute to such a champion in our community and Kevin's legacy lives on in such a fitting way."

City council member Michael Germaine also spoke about how

the Press Box, that Lyons first established in 1990, did so many honorable things to improve the City of Worcester and the community at-large, whether it be hosting a funeral for someone, a family that needed some help financially or an American Cancer Society fundraiser.

"Whatever the cause was the Lyons family was there," said Germaine. "The greatest thing about Kevin (and his wife Kathleen) is what they instilled into his family, because those e-mails come every day and it's because what Kevin taught his family."

"That's what I want people to remember about Kevin, not (just) how great of an athlete he was, but how great of a human being he was and how great of a person he was."

Lt. Governor Tim Murray noted that it was amazing how Lyons was able to bring people together, whether it be people from the Grafton Hill section of town, residents on the west side and everyone in between.

"This is about teamwork, Kevin understood teamwork in so many different ways, in the classroom and on the field, in business and giving back," said Murray. "We all put our shoulders in the week to realize the vision of the people who loved Kevin, who knew Kevin and how he continued to give back to

his alma mater.

"He represented a lot of what the City of Worcester is all about and what Worcester State University is all about. Giving back as a teacher and an educator"

A ceremonial first pitch which had each of his four grandchildren throw out a ball to four Worcester State baseball players in uniform concluded the event. A sign marking the walking trail around the perimeter of Rockwood Park was also unveiled prior to the dedication with support by the Reliant Medical Group Foundation.



Photos Courtesy of WSU PR Dept.



A Call for Writers to "Fight for Your Darlings"

By Adam Straughn
Staff Writer

If you are a writer of any kind and have ever had someone edit, redraft, or completely scrap an idea, section, sentence or even a single word from one of your works, you have undoubtedly felt the anguish and agony of what many writers and scholars have called "killing your darlings."

The origin of this phrase is hard to pinpoint but I have done some research and have found that William Faulkner and Stephen King both have used similar terms when referring to the editing processes of a written work. Whether it is in creative writing where certain aspects of a story are in need of exclusion, or in scholarly writing where too much irrelevant information derails the topic's focus, the removal of words from the page can become a painful process at times for the mind behind them.

"Kill your darlings" is a peculiar phrase, grotesquely analogizing the editing process to the slaughtering of one's own children, and although this may be gruesome imagery, I think I have come to understand why exactly Faulkner and King have used this specific comparison to describe the editing process, aside from their tendency to use dark imagery. To witness one's own creations omitted from the page can be hard to bear if it is not completely understood as to why, and if it is not taken in the right context it can diminish a writer's self-esteem and undermine their artistic confidence.

I was first enlightened about the painful process of "killing one's darlings" in high school while working on my student newspaper, *The Veritas*. My teacher and editor, who I realize in retrospect had a great deal of influence on me, was unafraid to regularly butcher my articles, so much so that it literally hurt me emotionally to read through them again. All the red ink lay like bloodstains on the page as evidence of needed revision and correction.

To me, my teacher seemed to be a cruel and heartless assassin of thoughts. However, I knew my

journalistic and writing skills in general were still inadequate in these sophomore years, so I did my best to make peace within myself and find confidence in the guiding hand that my teacher offered me, trusting that her suggestions were truly best for the article and newspaper as a whole.

Even to this point in my growing career as a writer, I still know adverse reactions can and will erupt when reading over an edited work. Just as in the past, I know there will be times when I will find myself disagreeing with an editor's decision to remove or revise certain aspects of a work.

Now, I'm not talking about grammatical errors, fallacies in reasoning, wordiness, or any other obvious mistakes in a work that are in need of modification, but rather, those comments that seem to be more rooted in personal opinion. It is not at all that I do not trust my editor's or teacher's opinions or doubt their intelligence in any way, nor is it that I dislike the editing process as a whole. Editors serve a vital purpose in the creative processes and a second set of eyes is always helpful; but sometimes an editor may attempt to insert their own idiosyncratic aesthetic beliefs this is what would peeve me.

I say this, somewhat as a hypocrite, because I know I am guilty of inserting my opinion at times while consulting students in the Writing Center. It seems natural to have an original thought for a work, even if it is not your own.

Some students who I work with make every revision I suggest, even if it is based off of my own opinion while others take my suggestions with a grain of salt, and tell me they will decide later if they will keep what they first wrote, or revise their work as I may have suggested. These latter students are my favorite – they are the ones who refuse to kill their darlings right away and instead, 'fight for their darlings,' to keep their ideas alive, believing that they are of importance.

Of course, this whole disputation really relies on what kind of

writing one is doing. In scholarly or business-oriented works, one would have to write to fit into set guidelines as outlined by the superior in the given system. For instance, if one was writing for a newspaper or magazine, the editor-in-chief will usually set the standards and regulate all the content that makes the press. For scholarly essays, assignments usually have outlines that the professor expects the students will follow. With more artistic works however, these guidelines do not quite apply.

Yet in scenarios when a creation is in the works to be published, there will likely still be an editor to critique the artist's creation at some point along the way. There is a lot that goes on in the mind during the creative processes, and many questions may arise. For example, when should one 'kill their darling' in order to recreate a work to fit the editor's vision? Also, more importantly in this case, when should one fight for their darlings and stick with those first intuitions of perceived perfection instead?

These are the questions I have been asking myself a lot throughout this past semester for I've lost more darlings than I ever have before, not in writing for school or work, but in writing music as part of a local metal band. This artistic environment demands editing just as standard writing does, but working as part of a team makes the process interesting and unique.

As a band, we must attempt to combine ideas with each other in order to create a collective piece of art that can be agreed upon by all of us. Because we all have our own distinguished tastes and varying aesthetic values, the final versions of these songs can become tough conclusions to come to. Everyone must kill their darlings at some point and luckily, since we all have mutual respect for each other and each other's creative thoughts, criticism is never taken too sourly. Mutual criticism in a cooperative environment such as this results in songs that have no shortage of mediocrity or staleness and this

is also a productive way to inspire each other to become better at our instruments. The finished products end up having a little bit of everyone's ideas interwoven within them and for the most part, everybody is happy in the end. Yet, there still are times when I have a strong belief that a certain guitar riff or drum-beat has what it takes to make it into a certain song.

At times like these, I try my best to convert my band mates to believe in my idea as much. I fight for my darlings until I cannot fight anymore, then I come to terms that these rejected thoughts must be slain.

In this manner, I have learned that writing has many similarities to the creative processes of being in a band. I have seen how some ideas just do not quite make the cut, and I have felt a little pain here and there from these artistic distresses. I am becoming much better however, at bearing the decimation of my creations and I write this to offer condolence for any others who go through these same hardships as writers or artists. For those who suffer, I offer a few words of advice.

My first advice for someone caught in a dilemma of any kind would be to "just walk away," or as the Beatles would put it, "Let it Be," if only for just a moment. Find clarity of some kind, then come back to it. In certain scenarios, writers can become so attached to their creations that they blind themselves with hubris or false hope. Trying to force something into creation is not natural, so putting it on the back burner and coming back to it later can alleviate the pressures a writer may occasionally feel. Keep an idea in mind for future products or maybe abandon the idea altogether for a bit and work on something new. You don't always have to kill your darling completely and with this technique you are sparing your darlings from their deaths, at least for the time being.

Secondly, "give alternative visions a chance." Oftentimes, I find

Continued to bottom of page 5.

Entertainment

Moving In Stereo: Baige O'Bannon Album review

By Ashley Arseneau
Editor in Chief

It is not a rare occurrence for people to leave things on tables around campus, especially the Student Center (SC), hoping for people to take notice and pick it up. Usually we just see flyers for events or informational literature. Once I even found pamphlets on becoming a Jehovah's Witness around the Third Floor of the SC. However most recently I discovered something different laid upon various table among the SC, particularly the Living Room area going towards Student Activities; what appeared to be a unknown artists demo cd had been placed on tables to spread their music around.

I thought to myself, "How Brave,

they have laid it out for everyone to see, listen to, and most likely mock. Why not reward this artist, aka Baige O'Bannon, with a review and give his album entitled, A Prequel to some Cool Sh*t, a serious and open minded listen.

Interestingly enough the album is not just a demo EP, it has sixteen tracks. That alone exceeded my expectations. Also, for an unknown hip hop artist, I was expecting to just hear way too many yo yos. This artist actually has some talent beyond primitive rap styling's.

There is also an unidentified female voice featured that is quite good, especially on the first track, "Just Playin". The female vocalist does not have to many lyrics but brings an interesting element to a song that gets the point across that

women are party objects not regular people just as bad or worse than similar hip hop songs. Also, the backing music is horrible choppy during the beginning of the track.

Another song included on the album, "Chillin", also has some verses putting women down. But luckily that is not all the song is about. There is also a part about eating snack food while partying. This song is a bit random with the lyrics and is only slightly redeemed by the smooth music behind that is much better than some other songs. A second issue with the lyrics besides that they make little sense is the overly used profanity. It sounds as if O'Bannon knows very few words that would not be censored on the radio.

Honestly as much as I am try-

ing to give this a fair I feel insulted as listener. I know every artist should be given the right to express themselves in the way they see fit, however when a musician cannot find any lyrics to express themselves besides profanity it is beyond art and just overly amateur. Some profanity is fine in songs and helps add something but in this case it is just ridiculous. For the record I am not a musician or lyricist myself but I feel what O'Bannon has put out is not all he is capable of. For the most part the music backing the tracks was good and I think he has real potential if he can come up with some real lyrics.

I rate Baige O' Bannon's album A prequel to Some Cool Sh*t 2.5 out 5 stars



Photo Courtesy of leftovercake.com

Continuation from page 4

that others and myself may be guilty of putting on the blinders and disregarding the opinions of others. Now and then, one must let a few little darlings go to make way for others, and in doing so, they may find something that they never expected. I always find that a work I set off to create never ends up the way I first conceived it in my mind, especially when editors are part of the process. That is not always a bad thing however. A little bit of inspiration can go a long way and just one suggestion can light a whole new path for a writer or artist. If the person doing the editing or making the suggestion has more experience, I encourage taking their suggestions even more. Do not let your pride get in the way.

On the other hand, "do not always give in!" A writer does not always have to change around their words for others, given that the

situation allows it. If at all possible, fight for your darlings! All editors are not created equal. People have different ideas and opinions. The great thing about humanity is that we do all see the world differently -- if we did not we would be homogenous thought replicating robots, and if that were the case, art really would not need to exist.

There are many examples of artists who flew under the radar for years before their work was fully appreciated, so hold on to what you believe in! If an editor is telling you something is cliché or drawn-out however, they are probably right, so always seek to condense your work and stay original while still attempting to communicate what you would like to.

Lastly, if you do choose to fight for and keep your darlings, know that "you can always change something later" if you change your mind. You do not have to

make the call to kill or keep the creations right away, but do not get stuck in the mud too long and delay the whole process. If you like something but others have given it criticism, think deeply on why they may have done so. Perhaps they do not see things the same, or maybe you did not make yourself as clear as you thought. Ask yourself where they may be coming from. Then make your choice and move along.

I find that no matter how many times I read through a work, I will always find something I can change. I have read through this article here about fifty times already, and just about every time I have revised something, deleted something else, or came up with something new. This is the curse of being an artist. Eventually when a work is published, it seems that it may have reached its creative end; but not always. There are cases where artists have re-written old

works, where others have re-made other's works adding their own creative spin, and where creations have directly inspired other creations down through the lineage of humanity. Works of all kind can have life after what was first considered completion.

What is most important for writers and artists is that they eventually do finish their works, and that they not work excessively long on one piece. If a work is not completed, then it seemingly serves no purpose. Do not get caught up in fighting for your darlings too much, but also, do not be too quick to kill your darlings right away. Learn how to take the suggestions of an editor or critic in stride, and focus on always moving onward with your creations. Writing is an ongoing process, but eventually it must reach an end if one ever wants their ideas to get out into the world.

Sports

Fans Cannot Pin the Blame Solely on Bobby Valentine

By Ryan Kuketz
Associate Editor

The Red Sox entered the 2012 season with the awful taste of the epic collapse and clubhouse drama of last September still lingering in their mouths. With a new manager at the helm, they have been unable to erase the memories of last year by starting the year 7-10 through the first 17 games. Bobby Valentine has made questionable decisions on and off the field, and the pitching staff has been terrible.

The season started with a three game sweep by the Detroit Tigers, and then they lost 2 out of 3 games to the Toronto Blue Jays. When they got to Fenway for the first time this season, they started to find a groove by winning the first 3 of 4 against the Tampa Bay Rays, but then out of the blue, Valentine showed his true colors and caused a commotion in the media and in the clubhouse.

Valentine called out starting third baseman Kevin Youkilis by saying, "I don't think he's as physically or emotionally into the game as he has been in the past for some

reason," on WHDH's Sports Xtra.

The next day Youkilis was confused by the statement and his teammate Dustin Pedroia even stood up for his third baseman by calling out Valentine. That day the Red Sox lost to the Rays, and then lost two games to the Texas Rangers including one devastating disappointment with a score of 18-3.

After getting demolished by the defending AL champions, the Red Sox bitter rivals, the Yankees came into Boston for a weekend match-up. After losing April 20 on the 100th anniversary of Fenway Park, the Red Sox took a 9-0 lead on the 21 and after the starting pitcher Felix Doubront left the game after six innings, the bullpen blew the 9 run lead and lost to New York 15-9. The only victory for Boston that weekend was a rainout the following day.

Most people probably do not have a problem when a manager calls out a player if the circumstances are right. However in Valentine's case, the timing was not right at all. The Red Sox were on a 3 game winning streak and after his comments the team lost the next

5 games in a row. His call to take Doubront out after six innings was also questionable as he was pitching well, and had only thrown 99 pitches.

Valentine has taken a lot of heat for his decisions as he should, but fans should not be solely blaming the new manager for the teams' shortcomings. The real problem is the upper management of the ballclub. It is the General Manager's responsibility to create the best team they can, and the Boston bullpen has been the biggest factor in the Red Sox losses. Alfredo Aceves, blew his first save opportunity on opening day, and has an ERA of 18.00 allowing 8 runs in just 4 innings and is 3-5 in save opportunities.

The best starter thus far has been Doubront; who is 0-0 and has an ERA of 3.94 and leads the team with 21 strikeouts. Although Daniel Bard was temporarily moved from the bullpen the Sox still plan on keeping him as a starter even though he has proven to be more effective in the bullpen.

Red Sox management has been hesitant to make any big moves in-

house or out. As a fan that is very frustrating. People watch a team and pay money to see them because they believe they have a chance to win. Management has not shown they are willing to do very much to make the team better than. Unless somehow this team can turn things around, and they can prove they have a shot of winning it all, people will stop going to Fenway to see the team play, and will lose interest in the club.

As a fan who goes to about five games a year, I have vowed I will not go back to Fenway to see the Red Sox this year unless they show they care about winning. As much as I want to pin all the blame on Valentine, Red Sox Nation has to realize that it is not completely his fault. Some of the blame, yes, but most belongs to Ben Cherington, Larry Luchinno, Tom Henry, and Tom Werner. And if the Red Sox do a blow a 9 run lead, at least fans still get to sing to "Sweet Caroline" after the 8th inning.

EDITORS NOTE: All statistics and information as of April 25, 2012



Cody Osburn



Jaclyn Lawlor

WSU Sports In Brief

Baseball

The baseball team posted a 5-1 record to close out the season this past week. Leading the way for the Blue and Gold was freshman Cody Osburn who batted .579 with seven runs scored and 11 RBIs to go with five hits and four runs driven in a 3-2 and 11-2 sweep of Fitchburg State, a 3-for-3 performance with a pair of doubles in a triumph against Newbury while he also crossed the plate four times and finished with four RBIs in a 8-3 and 11-4 sweep of Mass Maritime.

In their wins over the Falcons last Tuesday, freshman teammates DJ Colbert and Joe Perlak had a pair of seven inning complete games where they both used under 90 pitches in both of their appearances.

Junior Nick Bonofiglio only gave up three runs (two earned) in his seven-frame win over the Buccaneers and teammate Alex Teal fanned five to go the distance against MMA and finish the season with 52 strikeouts in 50 2/3 innings.

Despite ending the 2012 campaign with a record of 15-24 and missing the MASCAC Tournament for the first time since 2007, Worcester State would stand alone in fifth place with a record of 6-8 in conference play.

Softball

Despite dropping their final two games of the regular season to Trinity on Monday evening, the softball team captured their first outright MASCAC Regular Season title since 1987 with a sweep of Mass Maritime on Saturday and they have earned the right to host the conference tournament as the top seed with a record of 12-2 in league play.

Prior to Monday, the Lancers had gone on a 14-2 tear as they were led by sophomore Carolyn Hassett who had been batting .477 with 10 runs and 21 base-knocks with a 14-game hitting streak. Junior Hannah Everson has also been instrumental with a 9-0 record and a 0.93 earned run average with 66 strikeouts in 58 innings.

The Lancers will open the four-team tournament with a 5 PM match-up against Westfield State on Thursday at home before entertaining everyone in the remaining three games of the double-elimination competition on Saturday.

Photos Courtesy of Athletic Dept.

Men's Track

The men's track & field team placed third at the MASCAC Championships this past Saturday at Westfield State as they finished the meet with 146 points.

The 4x100 meter relay (42.31) and 4x400 meter relay (3:23.24) both earned first-place finishes while junior Jon Parrella won the 400 meter hurdles (55.67) and freshman Terrence Gibson blazed the track with a top time in the 200 meters (22.82). In the field, sophomore Matthew Begley won the javelin (184-02) with a toss that was less than a foot away from the school record while sophomore Andrew Johnson cleared first in the high jump (6-02.75).

The 4x400 squad that was made up by Parrella and classmate Tim Mazeika along with sophomore's Kevin Maciel and Ramses Rafael qualified for the ECAC Division III Championships while the 4x100 mark broke the school record and is currently one of the best in New England.

18 individuals and a trio of relay teams will run at this week's Division III New England Championships at MIT.

Women's Lacrosse

Leading the way for the 3-12 women's lacrosse team was freshman standout and team MVP Jaclyn Lawlor led the squad with 32 goals and nine assists for 41 points and the highest total for a first-year player since Ann Clark accomplished the feat in 2004 with 93 points (84 goals).

After defeating Becker College 16-7 on April 21 and Elms College last Wednesday, the Lancers dropped their final game of the season to Westfield State, 18-3.

The squad broke the school record for ground balls while senior Meagan Sheehan finished her career 10th on the all-time scoring list with 67 points (40 goals - 27 assists). Junior Stacey Doherty was also one ground ball shy of tying the school record in the category which was set in 2004 by Ann Clark.

Women's Track

The women's track team avenged a nine-point loss last season as they captured their second-ever MASCAC Women's Outdoor title by scoring 226 points. The squad also broke seven meet records and had 10 first-place finishes at the meet held at Westfield State this past Saturday.

Junior Briana Wise continued to lead the way for the Lancers as she shattered competition marks in the 100 meters (12.16), the 200 meters (25.17) along with helping the 4x100 meter relay team to a new record (48.17).

The 4x400 meter relay team that included sophomore Megan Taylor and freshman classmates Brittany Hodgerney, Kim West and Alexandria McMahon who broke the school and meet standard with a time of 4:03.48.

Other top finishers who broke records included sophomore Christy Deininger in the 100 meter hurdles (14.86), Taylor in the 400 meter hurdles (1:05.05) and first-year Katie Cataldo in the javelin (132-05). Freshman Alyssa Jasper was a double-winner in the shot put (37-05) and the discus (116-09). Brittany Grueter also won the 10,000 meter run with a time of 42:02.46.

Next week the Lancers will compete at the Division III New England Outdoor Championships at MIT.

Men's Golf

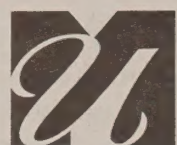
Junior Joe Belanger led the way for the men's golf team, who placed third overall at the MASCAC Championships on April 17 at the par 72 Blackstone National. Belanger tied for sixth with a score of 83 (+11) while sophomore James Letourneau added 10th place (86; +14).

At the Johnson and Wales Wildcat Invitational, the Lancers placed 12th as a team and Chris McCarthy led the way with a two day score of 119 (+13) to tie for 18th.



Brittany Grueter

Editor's Note: All statistics and information as of April 30, 2012



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WSU Represented in Chicago at NACCS

By Margarita E. Pignataro

National Association for Chicana Chicano Studies (NACCS) is a yearly conference that welcomes research that fosters social justice and Ethnic Studies. This year the conference took place from March 14 to 17 in Chicago, the overall theme was NACCS 40 Celebrating Scholarship and Activism.

NACCS was founded in 1972 to encourage committed, critical, and rigorous research to further the political actualization for the Chicana and Chicano community. NACCS members and conference presenters are not only Chicanas or U.S. born Latinas, they are Latinas, Hispania's, Caribeñas and non-Latinas from many disciplines who believe in social justice and whose research challenges the prevailing structures and ideologies of inequality based on classist, racist, sexist, and heterosexist privileges in society. The participants, scholars and artists from academia and community, gather every year at a different location in the United States or Mexico.

The Call for Papers for NACCS and the main theme of the conference is typically announced in September. Proposal submission is accepted through October 15 of each year, and invitations typically announced in January. Pignataro had participated at three other NACCS conferences (Mexico D.F, Albuquerque N.M and Seattle WA), however, this year was the first time she joined other scholars to form a panel. Their proposals were accepted and Pignataro presented a paper entitled Chicana Theater

Movement: From Teatro Campesino to Cihualt Productions, dramatized a short theatrical excerpt from Luis Valdez' *Las dos caras del patroncito* with other panel members Randy Ontiveros from the University of Maryland and Gustavo Licon from Itaca College and arranged a power point presentation with highlights of the last 40 years of Chicana/Latina Theater in the United States. Some highlights were: playwrights Luis Valdez, Estela Portillo-Trambley, Josefina López, Cherrie Moraga, and theater companies Teatro Campesino, Teatro Bravo!, Brave! For Women in the Arts, and Cihuatl Productions.

The conference venue location was the downtown Palmer House Hilton, and a plethora of panels, workshops, roundtables and activities were offered simultaneously on two floors of the hotel. A few conference topics were: Migration, Identity, U.S. Latina Transnational Imaginary; Women of Color Film-making; Music as Agency; Black and Brown Solidarity and Coalition Issues; Perspectives on Environmental Justice; Addressing Bullying of LGBT and Other Minorities in Schools; Strategies for Academic Survival; Save Ethnic Studies Fundraiser No to H.B. 2281, and a Teatro Luna (Chicago's first and only Latina theatre group) presentation. On last day of the conference, St. Patrick's Day, downtown Chicago turned into a lively roaming green fashion showcase and everyone was in Éirinn go brácho spirit.

NACCS conference organizers arranged an excursion on the last

day of the conference to Chicago's Mexican American neighborhood: Pilsen. Juan Mora-Torres, a faculty member from DePaul University, hosted the walking tour and the group experienced the symbolic and historic neighborhood vibrant with murals of icons, such as César Chávez, indigenous ancestral and United Farm Worker symbols. Aztec calendars were engraved in the pavement and mosaic facades brightened the tour. Casa Aztlán, Hector Duarte's House and the National Museum of Mexican Art were highlights and Taquería Los Comales offered a lunch stop and time to network with other Chicana scholars and comment on the presence Mexicans have had in Chicago since the 1910's.

Pignataro could not leave Chicago without visiting the Paseo Boricua and Humboldt Park, Chicago's Puerto Rican community, that enjoys one 59 feet steel Puerto Rican Flag set at each end of Division Street one near Humboldt Park and at the other extreme before Ciclo Urbano an Urban Bike Shop. Pignataro recruited Ontiveros and, with his zip car membership, it was a quick visit north of downtown Chicago. Humboldt Park was alive with its St. Patrick Day celebration, however, instead of a green fashion, there were sounds of congos and guiros, Caribeñ@s, Puerto Ricans and other Latin@s dancing in the park, and the smell of carne asada and other grilling aromas. Both ventures were culturally and educationally rewarding.

The NACCS conference welcomes presenters and attendees who are interested in and want to

engage in discourse about Latin@ Studies. It was the first time WSU was represented at a NACCS conference, and the first time Pignataro networked with other Massachusetts NACCS scholars: Mari Casteñeda, Department of Communication at UMass Amherst, and Irene Mata, Women Studies Department at Wellesley College. Although no longer with colleagues in the Southwest, Pignataro hopes to build bridges across communities and universities with students and faculty here in the Northeast, and perhaps one year NACCS will be held in Massachusetts. As a second semester adjunct professor, Pignataro looks forward to learning more about the WSU community. She is especially thankful to the WSU Diversity, Inclusion and Equal Opportunity Office who supported her NACCS attendance and thus, motivated the confirmation of the conference arrangements.

If you are interested in NACCS and its mission please visit: <http://www.naccs.org/naccs/default.asp>

For more information and images concerning Pilsen check out these sites: <http://www.explorechicago.org/city/en/neighborhoods/pilsen.html>

To check out the Humboldt Park Puerto Rican neighborhood visit: http://www.explorechicago.org/city/en/neighborhoods/humboldt_park.html;

Editor's Note :Dr. Margarita E. Pignataro is an adjunct in World Languages and English Department and contributed this article to the Voice Photo Courtesy of ratedesi.c

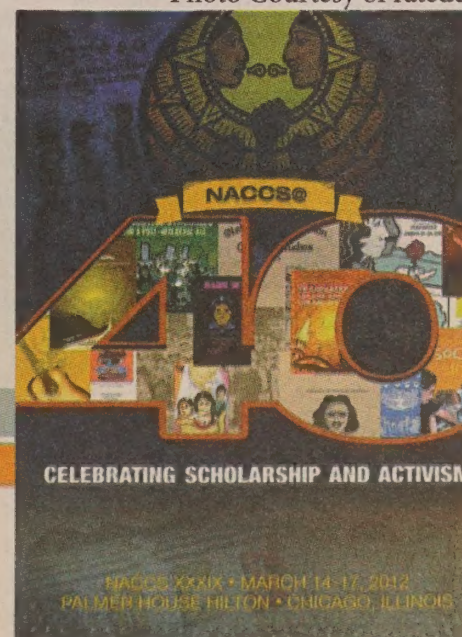


Photo Courtesy of nnmc.edu

Who Knew About WooU? : Cool Classes

By Joseph Labaire
Staff Writer

College is not just a time to party, sorry to break it to you partiers. It is also a time to expand one's global as well as personal knowledge. Some semesters can get boring with only taking the same old major/ minor classes. Luckily, while students are trying to accumulate extra credits in hope of graduating in 4 years, Worcester State offers some really interesting classes that people might want to check out for the upcoming Fall 2012 semester.

Some really cool classes that would be fit in great with art requirements are; TH-245-01 (Acting I) and AR-350-E1 (Introduction to glass). The Theater class covers basic acting theory and practice and students are required to act out scenes on stage. So, for all you aspiring actors/actresses out there, here is a chance to shine. As for Introduction to Glass, I can tell you from my personal experience that this class is not only fun, but interesting. Whether you partake in

legal or non-legal activities that use glass instruments or you are someone who is just fascinated by activities that one would not usually have the chance to partake in, this class is for great. The class meets off campus at the Worcester Center for the Arts Glass Studio on New Street here in Worcester. Trust me, you'll never be as proud as when you are using a glass that you made to drink out of at home, also, guests and friends will be envious! Both of these classes are 3 credit courses.

Worcester State also offers 1 credit courses. You may be asking yourself, "why in God's name would I ever take a 1 credit course", and that is a great question. However, I would advise looking into some of them because they sound pretty cool. Take for example some of the classes listed under the topic of Physical Education. A Woo State student could learn how to ballroom dance (PE-100-01), perform Yoga (PE-100-05), they can even learn how to sail a boat (PE-100-07) at Regatta Point Sailing Center located on Lake Quinsigamond.

Also, for all the ladies out there, Worcester State offers a self-defense class for women (PE-100-10), also found under Physical Education. Not only will you have a diploma to prove that you went to college, you will also be able to shake your booty on the dance floor and kick some booty on the streets. Both of which are valuable skills to have in today's rapidly evolving society.

The last few cool classes are for anyone out there who have happened to take Music 100 or Music 101. To go along with those amazing dance moves, it would be awesome to be able to make the music you and others dance to? For all those who answered yes, then what about taking either guitar or piano lessons! Both offer 1 credit each and a chance to learn a new talent. For those of who have not taken the required music classes, but want to learn to play an instrument, get going! Both music classes (MU-100 and MU-101) are 3 credit courses that count towards art requirements and are both interesting in their own way.

There is an old saying out there, "It's not what you know, it's who you know", and I believe this statement to hold true sometimes. However, what a person knows can sometimes lead them to who they end up knowing. So know as much as you can so you can meet as many people as you can. As a professor once said, the point of college is to develop critical thinking skills. Put whatever thinking skills acquired to date into action and think about taking one of these cool classes. Who knows, one day those sailing lessons learned in college may help you bump into some millionaire out on his boat and he will end up giving you a job, making you a millionaire. When that day comes you can thank me in the form of cash. As for the professors of these courses, I cannot tell you what they are like. No one has paid me for talking about these classes; I only found them online and decided to pass the information along. Have a great summer and good luck next semester.

Make Your Move

By Anna - Lisa Norman
Chess Club Member

Contrary to belief, chess isn't solely limited to old-timers and "geeks". On March 31, Worcester State University hosted its first Inter-Collegiate Chess Tournament of 2012, and the turnout included students, professors, and general public of all ages. Organized by South High School Faculty Advisor Joe Garcia, the event took place at 9:00 a.m. in the President and Fallon rooms of the Student Center.

The motive of the Tournament was to bring together an assortment of chess players to experience all ranges of ability, and this objective followed through magnificently. The 7½ hour competition was segmented into four, hour-long rounds.

The Award Ceremony reaped enthusiastic response; WSU Chess Club Vice-President Devin Cooper tied for 1st Place with Quinsigamond Community College Professor Jerry Williams. Following in Second were recipients Tam Ton

and Andrew Mwangi of WCS High School. Tying for Third Place were Hieu Ly of WCSHS, Eddie Sanchez of Doherty Memorial High School, Kim Lieghton of Assumption, and Dat Nguyen of WSU. The upcoming Fall Semester is anticipated to yield other Tournaments open to the general public.

The WSU Chess Club, officially recognized since March 12, has already gathered a motivated Membership of over twenty students, professors, and alumni. An assortment of players from beginner to experienced encompass the club. The Organization is in urgent want of new members, and instruction is provided to all. Meetings are Tuesdays and Fridays, 12:30-2:00 p.m. in the Café of the Learning Resource Center.

Contact chesswsu@gmail.com for any questions.

Photos Courtesy of WSU Chess Club
From left, Ethan Shin, William Shakalis (top), Dat Nguyen (bottom), Brendan O'Dowd, Devin Cooper, Anna-Lisa Norman, and Priscilla Suero.



This Year In History: The Centennial of the Sinking of the RMS Titanic

By Joseph Nawn

One hundred years ago, Worcester State University was called the Worcester Normal School and in 1912 Principal Dr. Francis R. Lane would officially depart from the school and be replaced by its third and final principal Dr. William B. Aspinwall. However, on April 10 of that same year the infamous RMS Titanic would embark on its ill-fated maiden voyage to New York City.

Most people are aware of the facts surrounding the RMS Titanic because of James Cameron's 1997 film "Titanic". The center of the plot revolves around a love story played by two characters named Rose DeWitt Bukater (Kate Winslet) and Jack Dawson (Leonardo DiCaprio) who, despite what some may think, never existed in real life.

However there are a number of people shown in the movie who are based on real people, such as the wealthy American philanthropist Margaret Brown (aka The Unsinkable Molly Brown), Titanic's architect Thomas Andrews, Chairman of the White Star Line that built Titanic, J. Bruce Ismay, Titanic Captain Edward Smith, Titanic band leader Wallace Hartley, and Macy's Department Store co-owner and his wife Isidor and Ida Strauss. Many might remember the Strauss' from the film as the old couple who went down with the ship.

The RMS Titanic was originally built to compete with other ship building companies in England such as Cunard Line and also a number of German companies who

at the time were building some of the fastest passenger liners in the world. The White Star Line Company had been purchased a number of years prior to the RMS Titanic's construction by the American based International Mercantile Marine Company which was owned by American business man J.P. Morgan. The company decided that they would rather compete with size then speed with the construction of three new ships the RMS Olympic, the HMHS Britannic, and the RMS Titanic.

The size of these ships were unlike anything the world had seen up to this point in regards to passenger liners and the White Star Line wanted to decorate the ship in a new unorthodox manner. The interior for the most part is based off of the insides of some of the most prestigious hotels of the day to give off the feeling that the passenger was not so much on a boat but on a floating hotel. Many of the first class designs of the rooms were decorated in an Empire or Victorian style. First class as well as some second class rooms were equipped with their own bathrooms while third class had to share with the rest of the third class passengers.

I think almost all of us are familiar with the actual sinking of the ship itself. The calm air, clear skies, and cold night of April 14, 1912 and the spotting of the iceberg by crewman Frederick Fleet, who was the first to shout the infamous words, "Iceberg, right ahead."

What many do not know however is that during the voyage the ship had been gaining more and

more speed each day to make faster progress towards their destination in New York City. The RMS Titanic had received a number of messages pertaining to icebergs in their area but many were ignored because after all it was the unsinkable ship and they assumed they would see such dangers in time to save the ship.

Unfortunately they were not so lucky and the ship did not have enough time to slow down and steer the ship away from danger. The compartments of the ship were prepared for a leak and had a mechanism that would close any compartments with a steel door if a leak was detected. To their dismay this would only keep the ship afloat if it only had to deal with a maximum of four flooded compartments.

The ship's hole pierced five and the RMS Titanic went down once and for all around 2:20 a.m. the next day; along with it about 1,514 of the estimated 2,224 people on board. The sad thing about the sinking is that of course there were not enough lifeboats, in addition to this sad fact is that the lifeboats were not being filled to their full capacity. There were approximately 20 lifeboats on the RMS Titanic which was enough to save about 1,178 people but due to some being released prematurely only about 710 people were saved and an additional 13 when they had come back to look for survivors.

Another aspect of the sinking that could have saved countless lives was the fact that the ship, the SS Californian, was in the

vicinity of the RMS Titanic when it sank; much closer than the ship that did save the RMS Titanic passengers, the RMS Carpathia. The ship decided to ignore the incoherent telegraphs they were receiving from the ship and ignored the flares that went up from the Titanic. It seems that even from its departure from Southampton where it almost collided with the SS City of New York that the ship was destined for tragedy.

On April 14 and 15, 2012 we remembered the 100th Year Anniversary of the Sinking of the RMS Titanic which has since become very much a part of great American folklore. Many people throughout the years have wanted to own a piece of the tragedy but there have been legal implications with owning such artifacts. Since the sinking is considered a tragedy, money is really not allowed to be made off of it.

However, as part of the centennial, the company RMS Titanic, Inc. who has the salvor-in-possession rights to the wreck and displays the salvaged wreck pieces around the world has released coins that have at the center of it a piece of coal salvaged from the actual RMS Titanic. They were able to legally work out a way for this to happen but supplies are numbered so get your piece of history while you still can and get ready for the next infamous centennial on June 28 of this year when we remember the shots fired at Sarajevo that led to the beginning of the First World War.

Picture Courtesy of kids.britannica.com



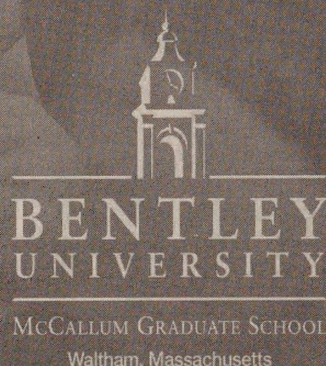
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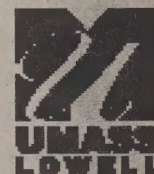


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